

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION LETTER

PUBLICATION OR REPRODUCTION NOT PERMITTED

No. 405

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May 23, 1931

DIRECTORS TO MEET ON MAY 28

The spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association will be held at the Washington office on Thursday, May 28. On the preceding day there will be a meeting of the Committee on Statistics, which is expected to formulate recommendations on statistical work, to be presented at the meeting of the Board. On Friday, there will be a meeting of the presidents and secretaries of state canners' associations, at which will be discussed subjects of mutual interest to these organizations and the National Canners Association.

Representatives of the government offices compiling statistics of interest to the canning industry will also be present at the meeting on Friday and participate in the discussion of statistical work being done by the government and canners' organizations.

PLANS FOR STOCK SURVEYS BEING COMPLETED

The Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is now completing plans for a quarterly survey of canned food stocks in the hands of producers and distributors. This service was requested jointly by the National Canners Association, the American and National Wholesale Grocers Associations, and the National Chain Store Association. At the start the figures will cover seven products: namely, corn, peas, tomatoes, green and wax beans, peaches, pineapples and salmon.

It is impossible to cover all producers and distributors in such a survey and publish the figures promptly enough to make them of practical use. For this reason reports will be obtained from a large number of representative firms, so that the figures when published will give an accurate picture of trends in the business. As in all government surveys, no return of any individual business house will be made public, and the completed figures will be issued only in a manner making it impossible to identify the operations of particular firms.

The success of the survey depends upon thorough coopera-

tion on the part of the industry and trade; first, in returning questionnaires immediately upon their receipt; second, in furnishing the desired information at each quarter so that "same-firm" comparisons can be made.

A more detailed outline of this survey will be mailed to all canners within a very short time, and they will be asked to return cards indicating their willingness to cooperate. A similar request will be sent to a very large number of wholesale grocers and chain stores. On the basis of replies from these questions the permanent mailing list will be made up.

As the National Canners Association was one of the leading organizations in obtaining this assistance from the Department of Commerce, members of the Association are urged to do everything possible to make the survey a success.

ASSOCIATION DOES NOT ENDORSE PARTICULAR BRANDS OF SUGAR

In the Information Letter for March 28, bacteriological standards were suggested for sugar intended to be used in canning non-acid products, such as peas and corn. Some sugar manufacturers have advised the Association that they have their factories under such control that they can comply with those standards. In such cases, it is, of course, appropriate for them to claim that fact.

It has come to the Association's attention, however, that some sugar dealers claim to handle brands of sugar that have been endorsed by our Research Laboratory. No such claim is warranted. Our laboratories have not endorsed and will not endorse any particular brand of sugar, or the sugar made or sold by any particular firm.

EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL

The combined totals of 15 major industrial groups reporting to the Bureau of Labor Statistics show an increase of 0.2 per cent in employment, and a decrease of 1.5 per cent in pay roll totals in April as compared with March. These groups in April had 4,705,470 employees, whose combined earnings in one week were \$115,715,549. Increased employment in April was shown in 10 of the 15 industrial groups, among them being canning and preserving, with a gain of 12.5 per cent. Decreased employment was shown in each of the remaining five groups.

PRELIMINARY ACREAGE OF GREEN PEAS FOR MANUFACTURE

The preliminary estimate of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics on acreage of green peas for canning or manu-

facture in 1931 is 245,500 acres, compared with 263,800 acres harvested in 1930 and with a five-year average harvested acreage of 209,700 acres for the period 1925-1929. The 1931 estimate of acreage represents a reduction of 7 per cent below the 1930 *harvested* acreage and is 11 per cent below the 1930 *planted* acreage. This estimate is based up reports of 197 canners representing 80 per cent of the total acreage harvested in 1930.

Reports received on varieties planted indicate that probably 47 per cent of the 1931 acreage will consist of the Smooth Round varieties, and 53 per cent of the Sweet Wrinkled varieties. These reports represented nearly one-half the total estimated acreage for 1931, and should be fairly representative of the whole acreage.

The indicated changes in acreage for the various state groups, compared with the 1930 harvested acreage, are as follows: Maine, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, 2 per cent reduction; Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, 5 per cent reduction; Delaware and Maryland, 1 per cent reduction; Montana, Colorado, Utah, Washington, and California, 32 per cent reduction.

States	Harvested Acreage						Preliminary Acreage,
	1925 Acres	1926 Acres	1927 Acres	1928 Acres	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	1931 Acres
Maine	1,770	1,410	720	1,100	1,150	1,330	1,400
New York	33,310	34,090	25,540	32,200	32,800	34,440	33,800
New Jersey	500	400	500	350	400	500	550
Pennsylvania ..	1,090	1,400	1,320	1,680	1,730	2,010	1,950
Ohio	4,850	4,210	2,900	4,020	5,030	5,410	5,950
Indiana	4,320	6,000	1,880	5,290	5,500	6,270	6,270
Illinois	8,050	9,200	8,830	8,740	11,010	12,000	13,550
Michigan	13,010	14,430	8,400	8,500	10,900	11,060	12,240
Wisconsin	111,710	106,120	86,000	101,000	111,000	127,000	116,000
Minnesota	7,880	8,570	6,980	7,920	12,670	17,900	17,180
Delaware	2,500	2,000	1,700	2,060	3,040	3,200	2,800
Maryland	11,000	8,800	8,000	10,500	12,400	13,000	13,260
Tennessee .....	.....	.....	.....	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
Montana .....	.....	.....	.....	3,500	3,900	3,500	2,050
Colorado	3,520	2,570	1,900	3,000	3,400	3,700	3,770
Utah	10,750	9,510	8,400	10,150	11,670	13,070	6,540
Washington .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,940	2,100	1,870
California	4,890	2,080	750	1,100	880	950	1,000
Other States *..	6,500	6,640	5,840	3,450	2,100	3,700	3,320
U. S. total.....	226,850	218,930	163,810	205,960	232,920	263,800	245,500

* "Other States" group includes Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Virginia, and Wyoming. Tennessee, Montana, and Washington included prior to 1928.

The condition of green peas for canning on May 15, as reported to the Bureau, was as follows:

States	May 15, 1931	May 15, 1930	4-year average May 15, 1926-1929
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Maine	*	90	..
New York	92	95	82
New Jersey	90	85	87
Pennsylvania	84	86	75
North Atlantic	91.5	94.1	81.0
Ohio	94	90	84
Indiana	89	96	85
Illinois	82	94	87
Michigan	85	90	79
Wisconsin	79	90	76
Minnesota	91	90	89
North Central	81.7	89.5	77.8
Delaware	84	71	81
Maryland	89	71	89
South Atlantic	88.1	71.0	87.8
Tennessee	100	..	..
South Central	100.0	..	..
Montana	*	..	85
Colorado	95	90	98
Utah	77	..	92
Washington	90	100	98
California	75	..	76
Far Western	83.2	93.4	91.3
Other States †	82	70	89
United States average	83.8	88.7	80.5

* Too early to report on condition.

† Other States include Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Virginia, and Wyoming.

PIMIENTOS FOR CANNING OR MANUFACTURE

According to reports to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from growers and packers, the 1931 intended acreage of pimientos in California and Georgia is 11.5 per cent above the acreage grown in these states in 1930. An increase of 17 per cent is indicated in Georgia, while California is apparently planning an 11 per cent decrease. The following table gives the total acreages which will be planted in these states if intentions are carried out:

States	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
California	3,510	3,340	3,250	2,160	2,140	1,905
Georgia	1,600	3,700	5,000	6,900	7,400	8,640
Total	5,110	7,040	8,850	9,060	9,540	10,545

FIELD LABORATORY TO OPERATE IN TRI-STATES

During the coming pea pack, the bacteriological Field Laboratory will operate in the Tri-States section. It will be set up first on the Eastern Shore at the canning plant of H. P. Cannon

& Son, Bridgeville, Del., and, when the pack opens in western Maryland, the laboratory will be situated at the Westminster, Md., plant of the B. F. Shriver Company. It is anticipated that work will be under way at Bridgeville shortly after June first.

During the pea pack, the bacteriological Field Laboratory may be used to advantage by canners in the sections in which the laboratory will be located, in handling problems relating to sterility and spoilage in general, which, under ordinary circumstances, would be referred to the Washington Laboratory. It is felt that time can be saved and work expedited if canners make use of this feature of the laboratory service.

Other notices relating to field laboratory activities will be given from time to time through the medium of the Information Letter.

ASKS RESCINDING OF CORN SUGAR RULING

The California state legislature has adopted a resolution urging the Secretary of Agriculture to rescind his order of December 26, 1930, permitting the use of corn sugar as an ingredient in food preparations without declaration on the label.

The Assembly joint resolution follows:

Whereas, on December 26, 1930, United States Secretary of Agriculture Arthur M. Hyde, issued the following order:

"Corn sugar (dextrose) when sold in packages, must be labeled as such; when sold in bulk must be declared as such; but the use of pure refined corn sugar as an ingredient in the packing, preparation or processing of any article of food in which sugar is a recognized element need not be declared upon the label of any such product.

"Nothing in this ruling shall be construed to permit the adulteration or imitation of any natural product such as honey by the addition of any sugar or other ingredient whatever"; and

Whereas, research by the laboratories of the California State Board of Health and elsewhere indicate that corn sugar has entirely different properties from cane or beet sugar (chemically known as sucrose), and also has materially less sweetening power; and

Whereas, cane or beet sugar have been used for generations in the home, and commercially as the natural sweetening for foods and that the consumer expects this sugar to be used in these products; and

Whereas, in view of the above facts, Secretary Hyde's order will mislead the consuming public as to the contents of manufactured food products; and

Whereas, Secretary Hyde's ruling thereby disregards one of the fundamental principles of the Federal food law, which is that the public shall not be deceived or misled as to the contents of any package of food; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, that the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Arthur M. Hyde, be hereby memorialized and earnestly urged to rescind said order; and be it further

Resolved, that the chief clerk of the Assembly be hereby directed forthwith to transmit this resolution to Secretary Hyde, to the President of the United States, and to the members of Congress.

STANDARD REQUIREMENT FOR FILL OF CONTAINER

Regulations of the Food and Drug Administration, under the provisions of the McNary-Mapes law, state:

"Canned foods shall be considered as of standard fill if the entire contents occupy 90 per cent or more of the volume of the closed container."

For the convenience of members there is given below a table showing for each of the 27 can sizes more commonly used, the gross headspace that will correspond to this 90 per cent fill. The headspaces are given in sixteenths of an inch as measured from a straight edge across the top of the double seam of the can to the surface of the contents of the can.

Name	Dimensions		Can makers' description	Gross headspace giving 90% fill*
	Diameter	Height		
5Z	2	2 1/16 x 2 14/16	202 x 214	6
6Z	2	2 3/16 x 3 8/16	202 x 308	7
Baby	2	8/16 x 2 11/16	208 x 211	6
8Z Short	2	11/16 x 3	211 x 300	6
8Z Tall	2	11/16 x 3 4/16	211 x 304	7
Picnic (No. 1 Eastern) ..	2	11/16 x 4	211 x 400	8
1/2 pint	2	11/16 x 4 8/16	211 x 408	9
Pint	2	11/16 x 6	211 x 600	11
No. 300	3	x 4 7/16	300 x 407	9
No. 300X	3	x 4 9/16	300 x 409	9
No. 1 Flat	3	1/16 x 2 8/16	301 x 208	6
No. 1 Short	3	1/16 x 4	301 x 400	8
No. 1 Tall	3	1/16 x 4 11/16	301 x 411	9
No. 303	3	3/16 x 4 6/16	303 x 406	9
No. 2 Flat	3	7/16 x 2 4/16	307 x 204	5
No. 2 Squat	3	7/16 x 3 2/16	307 x 302	7
No. 2 Short	3	7/16 x 4	307 x 400	8
No. 2 Special	3	7/16 x 4 8/16	307 x 408	9
No. 2	3	7/16 x 4 9/16	307 x 409	9
No. 1 1/4 Special	4	1/16 x 2 5/16	401 x 205	5
No. 1 1/4	4	1/16 x 2 6/16	401 x 206	5
No. 2 1/2	4	1/16 x 4 11/16	401 x 411	9
No. 3	4	4/16 x 4 14/16	404 x 414	9
No. 10	6	3/16 x 7	603 x 700	13
Full Gallon	6	3/16 x 8 12/16	603 x 812	16
No. 1 Square	3 x 3	8/16 x 3 8/16	300 x 308 x 308	7
No. 2 1/2 Square	3 x 3	8/16 x 6 4/16	300 x 308 x 604	12

* Stated in sixteenths of an inch.

GRAPEFRUIT PACK IN 1930-31 SEASON

Production of canned grapefruit in Florida during the 1930-31 packing season amounted to 2,775,077 cases of hearts and 404,193 cases of juice, according to a survey conducted by the Florida District Office of the U. S. Department of Commerce at the request of the Florida Grapefruit Canners Association. The survey included reports from 29 individual firms representing 38:

canning establishments. Eight plants were reported not in operation during the season and one firm furnished no report.

Reduced to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans the pack of grapefruit hearts in 1930-31 was 2,712,489 cases, as compared with 1,316,738 cases in 1929-30. The grapefruit juice pack, stated in standard cases of 24 No. 2's, was 412,066 cases, as compared with 173,934 cases in 1929-30.

The following table furnishes the figures on the pack by sizes of containers for grapefruit, grapefruit juice, and orange juice:

Sizes	Grapefruit hearts		Grapefruit juice		Orange juice	
	1929-30 Cases	1930-31 Cases	1929-30 Cases	1930-31 Cases	1929-30 Cases	1930-31 Cases
12 15-ounce	2,370	3,807				
24 8-ounce		1,260		25,000	5,939	28,000
24 11-ounce				1,500		2,500
24 15-ounce	1,900	3,800				
36 8-ounce		60,000				
48 8-ounce	236,943	565,168	16,107	60,720	5,064	17,117
48 14-ounce	1,080	1,755				
72 8-ounce	29,240	56,084	1,530	1,137		94
48 No. 1's	32,811	38,491	89,278	164,227	2,851	13,728
24 No. 2's	958,685	1,905,239	47,088	100,298	25,539	14,554
12 No. 5's	61,704	136,539	9,282	41,443	759	2,809
6 No. 10's	2,775	2,934	319	868	932	690
Total	1,327,508	2,775,077	163,604	404,193	41,084	79,492

The exports of grapefruit hearts from Jacksonville and Tampa during the 1930-31 season were as follows:

	Cases		Cases
United Kingdom	93,678	Germany	75
Canada	16,097	Sweden	20
Holland	760	China	50
France	160	New Zealand	25
Belgium	100		
		Total	110,995

Exports of grapefruit juice totaled 2,418 cases and 10 barrels. Of this total, 226 cases and 10 barrels were shipped to the United Kingdom and 2,192 cases to Canada.

CANNING OF CRAYFISH IN AUSTRALIA

Canning of crayfish is a recent development in Tasmania, and the product, which is similar to the American lobster, may offer severe competition to Japanese and American canned crab and lobster, according to the American trade commissioner at Melbourne. It is protected by a duty of approximately 5 cents per pound, which is sufficient to allow it to sell, retail, under the price of imported crab meat. At present the white Australian crayfish retails at approximately 30 cents per 8-ounce tin, while the Japanese article retails for approximately 34 cents for the same size tin.

INDIANA CHAIN STORE TAX UPHELD

The Indiana law imposing a special license tax on chain stores was held to be constitutional in a five-to-four opinion, announced by the U. S. Supreme Court on May 18. The majority opinion, in which Chief Justice Hughes and Justices Holmes, Brandeis and Stone concurred, was written by Justice Roberts. The dissenting opinion, concurred in by Justices Van Devanter, McReynolds and Butler, was written by Justice Sutherland.

The Indiana law makes it unlawful for any person, firm, association or corporation, foreign or domestic, to operate any store within the state without obtaining a license, which must be renewed annually. The license fees prescribed are as follows: Upon one store, \$3; upon two stores or more, but not to exceed five stores, \$10 for each additional store; upon each store in excess of five, but not to exceed ten, \$15 for each additional store; upon each store in excess of ten, but not to exceed twenty, \$20 for each additional store; upon each store in excess of twenty, \$25 for each additional store.

Excerpts from the opinion of Justice Roberts follow:

"It is not the function of this court in cases like the present to consider the propriety or justness of the tax, to seek for the motives or to criticize the public policy which prompted the adoption of the legislation. Our duty is to sustain the classification adopted by the Legislature if there are substantial differences between the occupations separately classified. Such differences need not be great." * * *

"The record shows that the chain store has many features and advantages which definitely distinguish it from the individual store dealing in the same commodities. With respect to associations of individual stores for purposes of cooperative buying, exchange of ideas as to advertising, sales methods, etc., it need only be remarked that these are voluntary groups, and that series of independent units cannot, in the nature of things, be as efficiently and successfully integrated as a chain under a single ownership and management." * * *

"In view of the numerous distinctions above pointed out between the business of a chain store and other types of store, we cannot pronounce the classification made by the statute to be arbitrary and unreasonable. That there are differences and advantages in favor of the chain store is shown by the number of such chains established and by their astonishing growth. More and more persons, like the appellee, have found advantages in this method of merchandising and have therefore adopted it." * * *

"The court below fell into the error of assuming that the distinction between the appellee's business and that of the other sorts of stores mentioned was solely one of ownership. It disregarded the differences shown by the record. They consist not merely in ownership, but in organization, management, and type of business transacted. The statute treats upon a similar basis all owners of chain stores similarly situated. In the light of what we have said this is all that the Constitution requires."

TRUCK CROP MARKETS

Carlot movement of 33 leading fruits and vegetables held nearly steady around 20,435 cars during the week ended May 16, and was 2,100 cars heavier than last year, according to a report from the U. S. Market News Service. Oranges still required 2,430 cars for the week, with nearly 3 cars from California for each one from Florida. Cantaloupe shipments increased suddenly to 1,000 cars for the seven-day period, and onion forwardings totaled 1,260 cars.

Lettuce shipments decreased to 1,150 cars and cabbage to 860 cars. Grapefruit movement from Florida was down to 780 cars. Strawberries were nearing their annual peak with 2,015 cars by rail last week. Many also moved by truck. Cherry forwardings, amounting to 210 cars, were two and a half times as heavy as last spring.

Compared with the relatively light supplies during the winter and spring, domestic forwardings of tomatoes were greatly increased last week to 925 cars, but were still only half as heavy as a year ago. The lower valley of Texas increased to 445 and Florida originated 460 cars, with 20 from California. Imports from Mexico dropped to 60 cars.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	May 10-16 1931	May 3-9 1931	May 11-17 1930	Total this season to May 16	Total last season to May 17	Total last season
Apples, total	406	606	413	108,071	101,337	102,801
Eastern states ..	62	104	132	42,844	50,910	51,439
Western states ..	404	502	281	65,227	50,427	51,362
Asparagus	99	246	59	3,454	2,535	2,789
Beans, snap & lima	482	615	554	4,807	5,216	9,557
Beets	45	24		1,210		
Cabbage	859	1,118	948	14,915	11,836	38,117
Carrots	332	386	303	7,144	7,760	12,188
Cauliflower	40	79	13	9,543	9,523	9,535
Cherries	210	127	88	398	179	2,575
Corn, green	63	11		74		
Cucumbers	467	382	583	1,220	1,485	7,643
Pears	37	66	9	28,777	21,137	21,147
Peas, green	219	338	381	3,459	3,212	6,800
Peppers:						
Domestic	60	58	93	1,650	1,126	2,794
Imports	4	11	7	352	465	476
Spinach	125	230	47	9,241	9,366	9,636
Strawberries	2,115	1,811	1,343	8,958	8,645	11,135
Tomatoes:						
Domestic	924	532	1,791	4,033	6,654	33,506
Imports	986	667	1,843	9,788	13,488	40,364
Vegetables, mixed:						
Domestic	595	882	783	15,381	14,814	31,040
Imports	9	7	5	298	348	359

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The first part of the week ended May 19 continued cool in the more eastern states, according to the Weather Bureau, and temperatures were again subnormal rather generally in the South; later, there was a marked reaction to warmer weather, though towards the close of the week rather low temperatures occurred in the interior of the Northeast with some places reporting minima below freezing. Showers were general from the Middle Atlantic states and upper Ohio Valley northward during the first part of the week, while moderate to substantial rains occurred over a wide area of the interior toward its close. Otherwise, the weather was generally fair, with abundant sunshine.

The pronounced reaction to warmer weather in the interior valleys, with most of the week fair and sunny, brought a substantial improvement to weather conditions as affecting agriculture. Farm work made unusually rapid progress, while vegetation shows a marked response. Corn planting advanced rapidly with better germinating conditions, while gardens, truck crops, and pastures show improvement. In the South, warm-weather crops, however, were again subjected to abnormally low temperatures during much of the week, with many reports of slow growth and uncertain germination of recently planted seed. Toward the close of the week temperatures were higher and more favorable.

BUSINESS INDICATORS

(Week ended Saturday, average 1923-1925=100)

	1931			1930		
	May 16	May 9	May 2	May 17	May 10	May 3
General Business:*						
New York Times	77.8	†79.2		94.2	94.0	95.7
Business Week	79.2	†78.8		98.1	96.9	94.2
Freight car loadings	78.0	80.0		97.0	†97.2	98.3
Wholesale prices (Fisher's):						
All commodities	71.8	72.0	73.1	88.7	89.0	89.7
Agricultural products	61.6	61.9	62.8	93.4	94.4	94.2
Non-agricultural products	74.5	74.8	76.1	86.3	86.1	87.5
Bank debits outside New York						
City	89.0	112.4	95.1	120.4	136.3	120.4
Road prices	107.1	106.8	106.3	106.3	106.1	106.0
Stock prices	130.9	143.8	141.2	234.0	228.6	233.0
Interest rates:						
Call money	32.2	36.4	36.4	72.7	76.6	92.1
Time money	43.9	45.7	45.7	89.1	91.4	97.1
Business failures	126.8	155.3	130.7	127.0	129.0	116.0

* Relative to a computed normal taken as 100.

† Revised.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise	
			L. C. L.	Other
Week ended May 9	747,440	301,450	226,383	219,616
Preceding week	775,291	312,804	227,131	235,266
Corresponding week, 1930	932,346	367,639	249,244	315,463
Corresponding week, 1929	1,048,960	411,922	264,280	372,758

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES IN APRIL

The index number of wholesale prices computed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics declined from 74.5 in March to 73.3 in April, a decrease of more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Farm products as a group averaged three-fourths of 1 per cent below March prices, due to decreases for corn, oats, rye, beef steers, hogs, sheep, cotton, eggs, and wool. Wheat, lambs, and hay, on the other hand, were higher than in the month before. Among foods, price decreases were reported for butter, cheese, fresh and cured meats, lard, rye flour, and corn meal, resulting in a net decrease of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for the group. Wheat flour and dressed poultry averaged higher than in March.

Retail food prices in 51 cities, as reported to the Bureau, showed an average decrease of about 2 per cent on April 15, 1931, when compared with March 15, 1931, and an average decrease of 18 per cent since April 15, 1930. The prices of pork and beans, canned corn, canned peas and canned tomatoes decreased 3 per cent, while canned red salmon and evaporated milk decreased 1 per cent.

AUSTRALIA'S FRUIT PACK REDUCED BY HALF

Production of canned tree fruits in Australia this year is approximately one-half that of last year, according to an estimate of the Australian Minister of Markets cabled to the Department of Commerce by the American trade commissioner at Sydney.

ABSTRACTS OF CANNING TECHNOLOGY

Copies of Abstracts of Canning Technology, Vol. VIII, No. 4, have been mailed this week to members of the Association. Any member failing to receive his copy should so advise the Washington office.

LEAFLET DESCRIBES CENSUS REPORTS

The manner in which the reports covering the fifteenth decennial census will be issued is described in a three-page leaflet recently published by the U. S. Census Bureau. The leaflet outlines the plan of publication and indicates briefly the type of data that will be made available. Copies of the leaflet may be obtained from the Census Bureau.

POULTRY USED FOR CANNING

The quantity of poultry canned or used for canning by 32 firms reporting to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics in April, 1931, was 1,338,607 pounds. Twenty-eight firms re-

porting for both March and April, 1931, used 1,320,740 pounds in April as compared with 2,041,307 pounds in March. Twenty-nine firms that reported using 1,319,740 pounds in April of this year, used 1,950,137 pounds in April a year ago. The U. S. Market News Service reports the quantity as follows, the figures for drawn poultry having been converted to an undrawn basis, assuming a 25 per cent shrinkage in drawing. The table shows a same-firm comparison for March and April:

	April 1931	March 1931	April 1931	1930
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Dressed poultry canned or used in canning	1,118,003	1,940,538	1,117,003	1,082,483
Drawn poultry canned or used in canning	202,737	100,760	202,737	267,654
Total	1,320,740	2,041,307	1,319,740	1,950,137
Number of firms reporting	28	28	29	29

ASKS INVESTIGATION OF CANNED MUSHROOMS

An application has been filed with the U. S. Tariff Commission for an investigation of the cost of production of canned mushrooms. The request was received through the French Embassy from the Syndicat des Fabricants de Conserves de Champignons de France, and its purpose is to secure a reduction from the present import duty of 10 cents per pound on drained weight and 45 per cent ad valorem.

JUNE REPORT ON FRUIT CROP

The government crop report for June will contain data on apples, peaches and pears for all states, and a forecast of the peach and pear production; condition of cherries, plums, prunes and citrus fruits in certain states, with a forecast on cherries and prunes (for drying) in California; and condition data on other fruits and nuts, principally in California.

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Directors to meet on May 28 ..	2481	Grapefruit pack in 1930-31 season	2486
Plans for stock surveys being completed	2481	Canning of crayfish in Australia ..	2487
Association does not endorse particular brands of sugar	2482	Indiana chain store tax upheld ..	2488
Employment in April	2482	Truck crop markets	2489
Preliminary acreage of green peas for manufacture	2482	Weather conditions	2490
Pimientos for canning or manufacture	2484	Business indicators	2490
Field laboratory to operate in Tri-State	2484	Wholesale and retail prices in April	2491
Asks rescinding of corn sugar ruling	2485	Australia's fruit pack reduced by half	2491
Standard requirement for fill of container	2486	Abstracts of canning technology ..	2491
		Leaflet describes census reports ..	2491
		Poultry used for canning	2491
		Asks investigation of canned mushrooms	2492
		June report on fruit crop	2492